

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT ON BILL NO. **H.3794, as Amended**

(Doc. No. 2529sj05)

TO:	The Honorable Robert Harrell, Chairperson, House Ways and Means Committee		
FROM:	Office of State Budget, Budget and Control Board		
ANALYSTS:	Bryce Wilson		
DATE:	April 18, 2005	SBD:	2005406

AUTHOR:	Representative Harrell	PRIMARY CODE CITE:	13-17-40
SUBJECT:	Research Authority Statutes		

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT ON GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES:
See Below

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT ON FEDERAL & OTHER FUND EXPENDITURES:
See Below

BILL SUMMARY:

This Bill would restructure the South Carolina Research Authority (SCRA) by creating two divisions, the South Carolina Research Division (SCRD) and the South Carolina Research Innovation Centers (SCRIC). This Bill changes the composition of the SCRA Board of Trustees and establishes an Executive Committee. This Bill requires the SCRA to provide 12 million in funding to the SCRIC over the first three years of its existence. After the initial three-year period, the State must explore methods to provide additional funding until the SCRIC has a reasonable opportunity to become self-sustaining.

EXPLANATION OF IMPACT:

Enactment of this Bill would have no impact on the State over the first three years of its existence since the SCRA is required to provide the funding. The SCRA does not receive any State appropriations and is not a state agency with regard to spending authorization as contained in the annual appropriation act. After the third year the impact on the General Fund of the State is at the General Assembly's discretion. Section 13-17-87 (D) (2) states that after the initial three-year period the state shall explore methods to provide additional funding to include direct appropriations. Average annual funding over the first three years is \$4 million including funding to cover start-up costs.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT IMPACT:

None.

SPECIAL NOTES:

None.

Approved by:



Don Addy
Assistant Director, Office of State Budget